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Turks and Caicos Islands

Working paper prepared by the Secretariat

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I. General

1. The Turks and Caicos Islands is a Non-Self-Governing Territory administered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The basis of the current relationship between the United Kingdom Government and its Non-Self-Governing Territories is enshrined in the constitution of each Territory. The British Overseas Territories Act 2002 grants the right of British citizenship to "British Overseas Territory citizens".

2. The Territory, comprising 40 islands and cays, lies 145 kilometres north of Haiti and the Dominican Republic and 925 kilometres south-east of Miami, United States of America. Six islands are permanently inhabited: Grand Turk, where the administrative capital, Cockburn Town, is located; Providenciales, the business and tourist centre with the great majority of the population; North, Middle and South Caicos; and Salt Cay. The area of the Territory is 948.2 square kilometres.

3. In 2010, the population was estimated to be approximately 32,000, comprising nearly 9,700 citizens or "belongers" and a large majority of "non-belongers" hailing from a variety of countries in the region, North America and Europe.[1]

4. The United States dollar is the currency of the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States is the most important trading partner.

5. The Turks and Caicos Islands were discovered by Spain in 1512. From 1874 to 1959, they were governed by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as a dependency of Jamaica. They became a separate colony of the United Kingdom in 1962, under the control of the Bahamas.

6. When the Bahamas achieved independence in 1973, the Turks and Caicos Islands were placed under a British Governor stationed in Grand Turk.

II. Constitutional, legal and political issues

7. Under the 2006 Constitution, which was negotiated between the Territory and the United Kingdom Government, the Turks and Caicos Islands operated until 14 August 2009 on the basis of a ministerial system of Government, with a Governor in the Territory appointed by the administering Power. More detailed information on related developments is contained in previous working papers.

8. Under the 2006 Constitution, the Governor is responsible for external affairs, defence, internal security, including the police force, and some public service matters, including the regulation of international financial services, and consults with a Cabinet as necessary. Other portfolios are administered by the various cabinet ministers. The Governor acts on the advice of the Cabinet on these matters unless otherwise instructed by the Secretary of State on behalf of the administering Power.

Note: The information contained in the present paper has been derived from public sources, including those of the territorial Government, and from information transmitted to the Secretary-General by the administering Power under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations. Further details are contained in previous working papers posted on the United Nations website www.un.org/Depts/dpi/decolonization/docs.

[1] Information provided by the administering Power, 11 January 2011; the Economist Intelligence Unit, Turks and Caicos Report, January 2011.

An Advisory National Security Council, chaired by the Governor, makes recommendations to the Cabinet on national security issues. The 2006 Constitution created the position of Deputy Governor, who must be a belonger, and who is appointed by the Governor. The current Governor, Gordon Wetherell, was sworn into office on 5 August 2008.

9. The Cabinet for the Territory consists of the Governor; a Premier appointed by the Governor; six other ministers appointed by the Governor from among the elected or appointed members of the House of Assembly, one of whom may be appointed by the Governor, on the advice of the Premier, as Deputy Premier; and the Attorney General, with the executive authority of the Turks and Caicos Islands vested in the British crown. The Attorney General is both legal adviser to the Government and head of public prosecutions.

10. The legislature for the Turks and Caicos Islands consists of the British crown and a House of Assembly, comprising a Speaker, 15 elected members, 4 appointed members and the Attorney General.

11. The legal system of the Territory is based on English common law and includes magistrates courts, the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal, with ultimate recourse to the Privy Council. On the advice of the Judicial Service Commission, the Governor appoints judges and magistrates.

12. There are two main political parties in the Territory: the People's Democratic Movement (PDM) and the Progressive National Party (PNP), formed in 1975 and 1980, respectively. The most recent general election was held on 9 February 2007, with a voter turnout of 85 per cent. The ruling PNP, under Premier Misick, won 13 seats, against 2 won by the PDM. The next general election was due by July 2011. However, in September 2010, the administering Power announced the postponement of the elections not "any longer than necessary", even if, in its view, elections could not be held in 2011. Additional information on this can be found below.

13. In the light of the accumulation of evidence in relation to the Turks and Caicos Islands and fortified by the findings of a Commission of Inquiry, in August 2009 the Governor suspended parts of the 2006 Constitution, removing the Cabinet, the House of Assembly and references to ministerial and related powers and suspending the right to trial by jury (see A/AC.109/2010/10).

14. Certain elements of the Constitution were left in place, such as the chapter on fundamental rights and provisions relating to the Governor, the courts and the public service. Powers and functions formerly exercised by the Premier and ministers are exercised by the Governor at his discretion, including those related to public finances, legislation and necessary regulatory reform. In practice, the Governor works under an interim constitutional arrangement with an Advisory Council to formulate policy and a Consultative Forum to allow the people's voice to be heard. Each is appointed by the Governor. This arrangement is sometimes referred to as "interim Government" or "direct rule" of the Territory.

15. The United Kingdom has appointed a Constitutional and Electoral Reform Adviser to review the 2006 Constitution in the light of the findings of the 2009 Commission of Inquiry and to make recommendations for change. The Adviser held public meetings in the Territory during 2010 and published various reports setting out possible areas for change. The United Kingdom Government is expected to consider the final recommendations of the Adviser in the course of 2011.

16. According to media and other public reports, during 2010 it was the widespread opinion in the Territory that any changes to the 2006 Constitution should have only been undertaken following the widest possible consultation with the people of the Turks and Caicos and only after the expressed will of the people of the Territory had been properly ascertained. In the course of 2010, many early supporters of direct rule became disillusioned.

17. In June and October 2010, Turks and Caicos petitioners from an All-Party Commission on the Constitution and Electoral Reform, formed by the Territory's two parties, and from the Turks and Caicos Forum, a small civil society group, addressed the Special Committee on Decolonization and the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) and provided an update on developments in the Territory. The petitioners, inter alia, indicated that, while most people in the Territory felt that the interventions of the interim Government were necessary, they feared that the continuing lack of monitoring and accountability of its actions, and that of the administering Power, would be detrimental to the Territory.

18. Meanwhile, on 21 September 2010, the British Government announced that the elections due by July 2011 were being called off with the support of both the Territory's Advisory Council and the Consultative Forum. Negative reactions to the announcement sparked protests and demonstrations by a number of islanders. According to the Economist Intelligence Unit's Turks and Caicos Report of January 2011, towards the end of 2010, there was a sense of disenfranchisement rising among the local population with low and declining support for the interim Government. This prompted concerns that stability could be threatened if the United Kingdom delayed an election indefinitely. Both of the main political parties reacted negatively to the announcement that elections would be postponed.

19. For its part, on 9 December 2010, the United Kingdom Government issued a statement setting out the milestones that would need to be reached in order for it to set a date for elections; it hoped that the milestones would be reached in time for elections to be held in 2012. The Government's Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Department for International Development jointly assessed these milestones to be, inter alia, a new constitution for the Territory; new ordinances, including those making provision for: (a) the electoral process and regulation of political parties; (b) integrity and accountability in public life; (c) public financial management; a fiscal surplus in the financial year ending March 2013; and substantial progress in the reform of the public service. The United Kingdom Government would have to be satisfied that the necessary reforms had been put in place to address the issues raised by the Commission of Inquiry, to prevent such maladministration being repeated, and to engender the confidence of the international community. It was the administering Power's considered view that the milestones were the minimum preconditions for the Territory's return to elected government.

III. Budget

20. According to the administering Power, in recent years, the Turks and Caicos Islands had suffered a number of severe shocks, including a slump in its primary revenue generator (the tourist trade and associated property investment) caused by the global financial crisis; a hurricane in 2008; and reports of corruption within the territorial Government. The Territory was left with a serious imbalance in its

revenue and expenditure and, as a consequence, a significant budget deficit in 2008/09 and 2009/10, which was forecast to recur in 2010/11 and again in 2011/12. Since August 2009 it had become apparent that there had been a breakdown in expenditure controls between 2006 and 2008, and that the high level of debt servicing constituted a considerable obstacle to the Territory's ability to return its budget to surplus. Public sector spending had been reduced by around 30 per cent in 2009/10 from the previous year in an attempt to limit the deficit.

21. In April 2010, the territorial Ministry of Finance presented the 2010/11 budget to the Consultative Forum, comprising approximately $182 million for recurrent expenditure and approximately $30 million for capital expenditure. With United Kingdom Government financial support announced in early 2011 for a period of two years, further steps are planned to reduce expenditure and raise revenue in order to achieve a budget surplus by 2013.

22. According to the administering Power, the territorial Government levies no taxes on corporate or personal income, capital gains or inheritance, and there is no sales tax in the Turks and Caicos Islands. Direct taxation of financial services continued to be under consideration during 2010/11, with a view to avoid undermining the Territory's international competitiveness in that sector, as property taxes and value-added taxes on the purchase of goods and services were generally unpopular. For the same period, an increase in import duty and tariffs, accommodation tax, stamp duty on land transaction, telecommunications taxes and fees, as well as work permit, residency and financial sector fees was anticipated.

IV. Economic conditions

A. General

23. Since the 1980s, the main sectors of the economy have been upmarket tourism, offshore financial and business services, fishing, property development and real estate. Foreign investors, mainly from Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States, have played a significant role in the economic life of the Territory. Economic activity is concentrated on the most populous islands of Providenciales and Grand Turk. By 2009 the main sectors of the economy were tourism and financial intermediation. Apart from the production of handicrafts for the tourism trade, there was no significant industrial activity on the Islands. According to the Territory's 2010/11 budget statement, the gross domestic product (GDP) of the Turks and Caicos Islands was about $480 million.

24. The economic decline began in 2009, with 5 per cent of GDP reaching levels of the early 2000s. For instance, while the economy shrunk, the cost of electrical power increased by well over 60 per cent in less than six years.

25. Since most of the Islands' requirements for capital and consumer goods, including all fuels, are met through imports, there is a vast structural trade deficit, which is largely financed by earnings from tourism and offshore finance.

26. Meanwhile a 2010/11 fiscal stabilization plan provides stimuli to the private sector, with the help of the Territory's various development partners, such as the United Kingdom, the European Commission and the Caribbean Development Bank.

B. Tourism

27. More than a decade of strong tourism growth was followed, starting in 2008 by a drop in tourism figures, including the stalled or failed development of high-end resorts. Approximately 84 per cent of tourist arrivals continue to be accommodated at resorts on Providenciales.

28. According to media reports, despite the international recession and some unfavourable publicity in recent years, the Turks and Caicos Islands remain a popular tourist destination. Tourist Board arrival statistics showed that combined long stay and cruise arrivals for 2009 had increased by 12.5 per cent over 2008, and the number of cruise passengers had increased by 21 per cent over 2008, to 513,928.

29. The same trend was maintained during 2010. According to the Hotel and Tourism Association, hotel occupancy in 2010 averaged approximately 60 per cent, constituting an increase of 11 per cent over the previous year.

30. In 2010, the Governor's Tourism Working Group published recommendations relating to the promotion of the Turks and Caicos Islands as a tourist destination, taking into account the respective roles of the private and public sectors as well as of marketing and financing tourism.

C. Financial services

31. Financial services, including company registration, trust business and insurance, are the second largest source of external revenue after tourism and the third largest employer in the Turks and Caicos Islands. The financial services sector is centred on yacht and jet registries, including their financing and insurance, plus United States auto industry reinsurance. According to the administering Power, constitutional responsibility for the international regulation of the Territory's offshore finance sector continues to rest with the Governor.

32. Further, the approach of the interim Government continues to be to work with international and regional technical assistance providers, such as the International Monetary Fund, the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force and with in-territory agencies to enhance their own systems to detect, investigate and prosecute money-laundering and other suspected abuses.

33. There are three international commercial banks in the Territory, namely, the First Caribbean Bank, Scotiabank and Royal Bank (all Canadian). Despite various efforts to prevent its full liquidation, the local TCI Bank Ltd. went out of business in 2010 due to commercial failure, with the attendant negative impact on approximately 4,000 depositors and the community. Further information on this matter can be found in section V below.

D. Agriculture and fisheries

34. Agricultural production is limited by the lack of freshwater and consists mainly of the growing of vegetables and citrus fruits on the Caicos Islands. Around 20 per cent of the Territory's working population is involved in agriculture and fishing.

35. Fishing is the Territory's main productive primary sector. Lobster, conch and other marine creatures make up the largest component of exports. Agriculture and fishing contributed approximately 1 per cent of the Territory's GDP.

36. According to the Territory's 2010/11 budget statement, the territorial Government's farm on North Caicos continues to receive capital expenditure support to scale up production and provide equipment for joint use by the Government and the Turks and Caicos Farm Association. At the same time, the territorial Government contributes to a loan fund to help secure land for long-term agricultural use.

E. Communications and construction

37. Transport and communications facilities are of fairly good quality. The road network covers about 120 kilometres, with 24 kilometres of paved roads on Grand Turk, Providenciales and the Caicos Islands.

38. The Turks and Caicos Islands has three international airports: the main one on Providenciales, and much smaller ones on Grand Turk and South Caicos. There are also landing strips on Salt Cay, Pine Cay, Parrot Cay, Middle Caicos and North Caicos. Flights are available to a number of United States cities, as well as London and Toronto. Air Turks and Caicos operates regional services to the Bahamas, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Jamaica. In 2010, the Turks and Caicos Islands Airport Authority repossessed the Providenciales International Airport from the previous private owner and secured a loan for the expansion of its runway, the only major construction project in the Territory initiated in 2010.

39. The main commercial port, South Dock, is situated in Providenciales. Grand Turk has a commercial port, and North Caicos a deep-water port.

40. In recent years, the territorial Government has invested heavily in infrastructure projects, such as roads, ports and airports. However, there has been a significant decline in construction activity since 2007, when this sector was buoyed by work on tourism projects and property development. In 2010, four of the Territory's largest development projects were put on hold as part of the process of civil recovery investigations. International construction companies are based in the Turks and Caicos Islands, which locally quarry sand and rock.

41. Three telecommunications companies provide domestic and international telephone services in the Territory. There are a handful of cable television channels on Grand Turk, over two dozen channels on Providenciales, and six radio stations. There are no daily newspapers. A number of weekly papers also maintain a web presence.

V. Social conditions

A. General

42. The Government of the Turks and Caicos Islands has over the years acknowledged the need to address considerable imbalances among the various islands and social groups. One measure taken was the launch in 2005 of a 10-year national development plan that provides a long-term vision for the Territory's development and a strategic framework for Government and private sector activities.

43. The Turks and Caicos Islands National Insurance Board, a statutory body of the territorial Government based on mandatory enrolment, was established under the National Insurance Ordinance No. 10 of 1991, which came into effect on 6 April 1992. The National Insurance is the sole provider of social insurance benefits to persons who are gainfully employed within the Turks and Caicos Islands between the ages of 16 and 65 years. With the liquidation of the TCI Bank Ltd. in 2010, over 20 per cent of the National Insurance Board's $100 million trust fund, or about $22.5 million, were considered at risk, an issue that was being addressed by the interim Government.

44. In 2008, the Human Rights Commission Ordinance established the Human Rights Commission to help the Territory to conform with international standards concerning various human rights obligations. During 2010-2011, various efforts made by the Commission to advance respect for human rights in the Territory continued, including training designed to address the needs of particular government departments and civil society. The right of individual petition to the European Court of Human Rights was extended to the Turks and Caicos Islands.

B. Immigration and labour

45. The Territory's main employer is the Government, which employs nearly one third of the working population. According to the administering Power, approximately 70 per cent of the workforce is employed in the service sector.

46. Unemployment, especially in the volatile construction and tourism sectors, rose in 2010, owing largely to the effects of the global economic crisis. Rates within the Islands vary widely. According to media reports, there was a marked out-migration from the Territory, due to a lack of economic opportunities.

47. According to the administering Power, temporary migrant workers, mainly from Haiti and the Dominican Republic, form a major part of the labour force in tourism and construction. Haitians remain the second largest group of employees after Turks and Caicos islanders. Inter-island migration by people in search of work is common. Social problems, such as overcrowding, housing shortages, the lack of running water and an increase in the number of female-headed households, continue to affect many migrant workers. In 2010, concerns about the treatment of migrant workers persisted, but with the reduction in large construction projects, large makeshift camps were no longer present.

48. Further, the interim Government worked in 2010 with the International Organization for Migration, which commissioned research about the Haitian population in the Islands, before considering a range of policy options. The United Kingdom appointed an immigration expert to advise the interim Government on reforms across the immigration system.

C. Education

49. Education in the Territory is free and compulsory for children from 5 to 16 years of age. According to the administering Power, there are 39 schools on the Islands, with a total enrolment of approximately 5,200, covering from preschool up to tertiary education. Of these, 14 are Government-run, 10 are primary schools

and 4 are high schools. Although there are more private than public schools, more students are enrolled at public schools than at private ones. The adult literacy rate is estimated at 98 per cent. The rate among immigrants is much lower.

50. As to higher education, there is a community college with branches on Grand Turk and Providenciales that provides two-year courses, mostly in vocational subjects. Citizens from the Overseas Territories benefit from the home student fee rate at English universities.

D. Health care

51. In 2010, health care was extended to all legal residents of the Turks and Caicos Islands, and not solely to belongers, as was previously the case. According to the administering Power, the introduction of modern secondary health care at the two public medical centres and tele-medicine links to the island clinics enabled the implementation of a National Health Insurance Plan in April 2010. Contributions are mandatory for employers and employees and there were around 25,000 contributors and 6,500 registered dependants. The Plan provides health care for 5 per cent of wages or earnings, split evenly between an employer and employee.

52. The public hospital network comprises a main facility, the Grand Turk Hospital, and the Myrtle Rigby Health Clinic, located on Providenciales. There are nine community health clinics on six islands: a 30-bed health complex on Grand Turk, a Government clinic on Providenciales, two clinics on Middle Caicos and two on North Caicos, a clinic on South Caicos and one on Salt Cay. According to the 2010/11 budget statement, approximately $44 million are allocated to the Ministry of Health, some of which is in conjunction with the new National Health Insurance Plan.

53. Two new hospitals were completed in 2010, one on Grand Turk (10 beds) and the other on Providenciales (20 beds) under a public-private partnership project. The two facilities, which opened in April 2010, will be operated for 25 years by Interhealth Canada (an international hospital management company, jointly owned by private and public-sector organizations) before being transferred to the territorial Government.

E. Crime and public safety

54. According to the administering Power, the overall crime rate in the Turks and Caicos Islands is no longer considered low. In 2010, an increase in more serious robberies was reported. The level of crime on Providenciales, the first point of arrival into the Territory and the Territory's economic hub, is higher than on the other islands, where incidences of serious crime were rare.

55. In 2010, following approval by the Consultative Forum, legislation was amended to provide the courts with tougher measures with which to tackle violent and gun-related crime. According to media reports, in the course of 2010, policing in Providenciales featured intensified patrols and the use of roadblocks, raids and generally heavier arms. The same year, a new courthouse was opened there.

56. According to the Territory's 2010/11 budget statement, an amount of $7.5 million was set aside to meet the cost of servicing a Special Investigation and Prosecution Team, while $2.5 million was budgeted to meet the cost of civil

recovery. In addition, funds for the Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police Force were increased by $4 million to a total of $18 million to finance capacity-building in community policing and crime detection.

57. The Special Investigation and Prosecution Team prosecutor appointed by the administering Power indicated late in 2010 that she had assembled a 30-strong team investigating alleged Government corruption, despite initial delays caused by a lack of funds and locally available expertise, such as police officers and attorneys, involving jurisdictions across the globe. For his part, the Governor indicated that a thorough investigation of over a dozen serious cases of potential corruption and other criminal misconduct was well advanced, and that first charges emanating from the probe were due to be laid in 2011.

58. With regard to civil recovery, the administering Power's team advanced their inquiries, including a probe into a 2008 crown land deal that involved two entire blocks in the north-west end of Middle Caicos.

59. With regard to illegal immigration, the territorial Government had announced in 2008 that a new coastal radar surveillance system would cover a wide area of the Territory and was to be used in the detection, interception and prevention of illegal or criminal activity. According to the administering Power, work on the installation of the Radar Station has been significantly delayed as a result of the Territory's financial crisis, but was scheduled to be completed in 2011.

VI. Environment

60. The Turks and Caicos Islands has an important environmental legacy to protect. Its wetlands are renowned, and the Islands' coral reefs, tidal flats, mangroves and marshlands provide a home for many unique wildlife, plants, reptiles, invertebrates and birds. In 2010, according to the administering Power, the developers of the Leeward Marina project in the Turks and Caicos Islands received an injunction from the Supreme Court for their refusal to suspend work on the project pending a judicial review and were threatened with fines, seizure of their assets and imprisonment. Environmentalists claim that the ongoing dredging was having devastating effects on the coral reefs.

61. Generally, the East Caicos, Middle Caicos and North Caicos wetland complex is considered the most natural among the 125 wetlands of international importance listed by the United Kingdom Government under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. At the same time, the wetlands on Providenciales have suffered severe environmental degradation as a result of rapid development for real estate and tourism, although some remain through the protected area and national parks system.

62. According to the United Kingdom Overseas Territories Conservation Forum, environmental work in the Turks and Caicos Islands came under considerable strain during 2009/10. Nevertheless, important conservation and related work continued. For instance, management of a project to secure long-term recovery of the native pine (and National Tree) *Pinus caribea var. bahamensis*, severely blighted by a non-native scale insect, was taken over by the Territory's Department of Environment and Coastal Resources. In relation to environmental education, an Overseas Territories Environment Programme project for curriculum development, which focused on freshwater resources, was started in 2010.

VII. Relations with international organizations and partners

63. In March 2006, the Turks and Caicos Islands was granted associate membership in the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean. The Territory was admitted as an associate member of the Commission's Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee in early 2008.

64. The Turks and Caicos Islands is an associate member of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and of the Association of Caribbean States. The Territory is a member of the Caribbean Development Bank and the International Criminal Police Organization. According to the administering Power, closer links are being sought with the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and with the neighbouring Bahamas. In September 2010, CARICOM noted with great concern the decision of the British Government to postpone indefinitely general elections in the Turks and Caicos Islands, and the delay in the return to constitutional government.

65. Along with 17 Caribbean nations, the Turks and Caicos Islands forms part of a World Bank catastrophe insurance pool established to assist the Islands in the event of natural disasters.

66. The arrangements with the European Union for association are not applied to the Turks and Caicos Islands, in accordance with the wishes of the territorial Government.

VIII. Future status of the Territory

A. Position of the territorial Government

67. Information on political and constitutional developments regarding the Turks and Caicos Islands is contained in section II, above.

B. Position of the administering Power

68. Information on the general position of the United Kingdom was included in annex I to the August 2010 report of the Secretary-General entitled "Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism" (A/65/330). On 4 October 2010, the United Kingdom made a statement before the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) during the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly.

69. According to the record of the Fourth Committee meeting (A/C.4/65/SR.2), the representative of the United Kingdom, inter alia, reiterated the British Government's established position that its relationship with its Overseas Territories was a modern one based on partnership, shared values and the right of each Territory to determine whether it wished to stay linked to the United Kingdom or not. Although the situation in each Territory was different and some Territories were at a more advanced stage of development than others, the United Kingdom would continue to work with all the Territories, as appropriate, in areas such as good governance, political and economic development and transparency, enhanced security and reduced vulnerability to natural and non-natural disasters.

70. The speaker went on to say that the relationship between an Overseas Territory and the United Kingdom was enshrined in the constitution of each Territory. A recent constitutional review process with a number of the Territories had resulted in updated provisions of existing constitutions, such as human rights provisions, and those relating to good governance and the respective roles of the Governor and locally elected politicians.

71. Further, good governance had been the central theme in all constitutional talks with the Territories. The British Government had no wish to micromanage its relationship with its Overseas Territories and was committed to allowing each Territory to run its own affairs to the greatest degree possible, but that brought with it responsibilities on the part of each Territory. Where the United Kingdom felt that a Territory was failing to fulfil the international obligations which extended to it or developments in a Territory gave rise to other concerns, the British Government would not hesitate to raise it with the Territory's Government and to intervene where necessary. The Government had done so in 2009 when it had suspended the legislature and Government of the Turks and Caicos Islands, after a Commission of Inquiry had found serious systemic corruption and entrenched financial mismanagement.

C. Action by the General Assembly

72. On 10 December 2010, the General Assembly adopted without a vote resolutions 65/115 A and B, based on the report of the Special Committee transmitted to the General Assembly (A/65/23 and Corr.1) and its subsequent consideration by the Fourth Committee. Section X of resolution 65/115 B concerns the Turks and Caicos Islands. In that section's operative paragraphs, the General Assembly:

> "1. *Notes with concern* the ongoing situation in the Turks and Caicos Islands, and also notes the efforts of the administering Power to restore good governance and sound financial management in the Territory;
>
> "2. *Calls for* the restoration of constitutional arrangements providing for representative democracy through elected territorial Government as soon as possible;
>
> "3. *Notes* the positions and repeated calls of the Caribbean Community and the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries for the restoration of democratically elected territorial Government as a matter of urgency and notes also the view expressed by the administering Power not to postpone elections any longer than necessary;
>
> "4. *Also notes* the extensive public consultations undertaken by the Constitutional and Electoral Reform Adviser and the continued debate on constitutional and electoral reform within the Territory, and stresses the importance of participation by all groups and interested parties in the consultation process;
>
> "5. *Stresses further* the importance of having in place in the Territory a Constitution that reflects the aspirations and wishes of the people of the Territory, based on the mechanisms for popular consultation;
>
> "6. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with

Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in that regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

"7. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the Government addressing the need for attention to be paid to the enhancement of socio-economic development across the Territory."